

REMARKS

The allowability of claims 2-4 is acknowledged appreciatively.

However, the rejections of claim 1 under 35 USC 102 for anticipation by the cited Bechtold and Ritzi patents is traversed.

The Examiner states that "Bechtold discloses . . . a plurality of chambers formed by walls (2, 3, 4) having liquid/vapour inside . . .". An inspection of this device reveals that there is only ONE continuous chamber 1 as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 4 (note that in Fig. 1 the numeral 1 indicating the chamber is misplaced). This chamber 1 is bounded by an inner wall 5 and an outer wall 2, and on the sides by walls 3 and 4. The "plurality of chambers" referred to by the Examiner is in fact merely a series of continuous grooves configured into the outer wall 2 to increase the surface area and thereby enhance thermal efficiency.

The Examiner's further statement that Bechtold discloses " . . . passageways 49 for communicating fluid between the chambers and the condenser . . ." is invalidated by the above. In fact condensate from an annular collector 48 is discharged centrifugally through such passageways 49 to the single entity of the boiler chamber 1 (see column 6, lines 17-22).

The Examiner's statement that Ritzi discloses " . . . passageways 79, 83, for communication fluid between the chambers and the condenser . . ." is not understood. In fact, passageway 83 returns condensate to the inlet 65 of the pump 60 (see column 3, lines 62-63), while path 79 conveys vapour from the second nozzle 58 to the condenser CC (see column 3, lines 55-58).

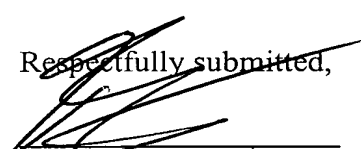
The Examiner's objections appear to be fundamentally misconceived because both the citations disclose turbine arrangements with a (uniform) ring of water maintained in a rotating cylindrical boiler - see column 4, lines 10 to 19 of US '796 and column 3, lines 6 to 9 of US '551.

Thus the circumferential offset and "imbalance of liquid" or claim 1(d) is not disclosed or suggested.

New claim 12 broadens elements of claim 1 and, therefore, should not invoke any Festo-like decision in the same way as making a dependent claim independent should not despite some contrary thinking. In particular, the third-named fluid is confirmed as at least one of the previously named liquid and gas. The array of chambers regularly about the axis is also maintained to distinguish the regular grooves about the axis of the Bechtold patent.

Reconsideration and allowance are, therefore, requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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